

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice and add new claims 9-19 as presented below in the listing of claims.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (new): A method for controlling the temperature of a baking oven including a catalyst, a heating source, an oven chamber temperature sensor, and a catalyst temperature sensor, the method comprising:

generating a first electrical control signal based on a first control state, the first control state being a function of respective electrical sensor signals from the oven chamber temperature sensor and the catalyst temperature sensor, the first control state being reached when a catalyst temperature is higher than an oven chamber temperature and a temperature difference between the catalyst temperature and the oven chamber temperature is greater than or equal to a first threshold value; and

controlling the heating source using the first electrical control signal so that the oven chamber temperature is maintained substantially constant.

Claim 10 (new): The method as recited in claim 9 wherein the heating source includes an electrical heating element of the baking oven.

Claim 11 (new): The method as recited in claim 9 further comprising generating a second electrical control signal based on a second control state, the second control state being a function

of the electrical sensor signals and being reached when the catalyst temperature is higher than the oven chamber temperature, and the temperature difference between the catalyst temperature and the oven chamber temperature is smaller than a second threshold value and was previously greater than the first threshold value.

Claim 12 (new): The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising controlling the heating source using the second electrical control signal so that the oven chamber temperature is increased or maintained substantially constant at a first predefined value for a first predetermined period of time.

Claim 13 (new): The method as recited in claim 9 further comprising generating a third electrical control signal based on a third control state, the third control state being a function of the electrical sensor signals and being reached when the catalyst temperature is higher than the oven chamber temperature and the temperature difference between the catalyst temperature and the oven chamber temperature is greater than or equal to a third threshold value.

Claim 14 (new): The method as recited in claim 13 further comprising controlling the heating source using the third electrical control signal so that the oven chamber temperature falls to or below a fourth threshold value.

Claim 15 (new): The method as recited in claim 14 further comprising generating a fourth electrical control signal based on a fourth control state, the fourth control state being a function of the electrical sensor signals and being reached when the catalyst temperature is higher than the oven chamber temperature, the oven chamber temperature is at the fourth threshold value, and the temperature difference between the catalyst temperature and the oven chamber temperature was previously greater than or equal to the third threshold value.

Claim 16 (new): The method as recited in claim 15 further comprising controlling the heating source using the fourth electrical control signal so that the oven chamber temperature is maintained substantially constant at the fourth threshold value.

Claim 17 (new): The method as recited in claim 9 further comprising controlling the heating source using the first electrical control signal so that the oven chamber temperature is maintained substantially constant at a second predefined value for at least a second predetermined period of time.

Claim 18 (new): The method as recited in claim 13 further comprising controlling the heating source using the third electrical control signal so that the oven chamber temperature is maintained substantially constant at a second predefined value for at least a second predetermined period of time.

Claim 19 (new): The method as recited in claim 9 wherein the baking oven includes a control unit having an evaluation circuit configured to process the electrical sensor signals, and wherein the generating is performed by the control unit.